

Date Mailed
June 28, 2000

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Strategic Energy Assessment
January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2002

05-ES-100

NOTICE OF HEARING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Hearing Date:	Monday, September 18, 2000 – 9:00 a.m.
Hearing Location:	Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI (Amnicon Falls Hearing Room – 1st Floor)

Comments Due: Thursday, September 28, 2000 - Noon	Address Comments To: Lois J. Hubert, SEA Coordinator Electric Division Public Service Commission P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854 FAX (608) 266-3957
FAX Due: Wednesday, September 27, 2000 – Noon	

1997 Wisconsin Act 204 repealed the advance plan process for electric utilities. In its place, Wis. Stat. § 196.491(2), requires that the Commission biennially prepare a strategic energy assessment (SEA). The SEA, a draft of which must be issued no later than July 1, 2000, must:

Identify and describe all large electric generating facilities on which an electric utility or merchant plant developer plans to commence construction within three years; all high-voltage transmission lines on which an electric utility plans to commence construction within three years; any plans for assuring that there is an adequate ability to transfer electric power into eastern Wisconsin, and the state as a whole, in a reliable manner; the projected demand for electric energy and the basis for determining the projected demand; activities to discourage inefficient and excessive power use; and existing and planned generation facilities that use renewable energy sources.

Assess the adequacy and reliability of purchased generation capacity and energy to serve the needs of the public; the extent to which the regional bulk-power market is contributing to the adequacy and reliability of the state's electrical supply; the extent to which effective competition is contributing to a reliable, low-cost, and environmentally sound source of electricity for the public; and whether sufficient electric capacity and energy will be available to the public at a reasonable price.

Consider the public interest in economic development, public health and safety, protection of the environment, and diversification of sources of energy supplies.

In February 2000, Wisconsin's largest investor-owned utilities, largest wholesale cooperative, largest municipal electric company, and several other electricity providers submitted historic information regarding statewide demand, generation, out-of-state sales and purchases, transmission capacity, and energy efficiency efforts for the years 1995 through 1999. In addition, these entities provided forecasted information for the years 2000 through 2002. The Commission has prepared a draft SEA, based upon Commission staff's compilation of the filed information, along with modifications where necessary for missing information, and Commission staff's subsequent assessment of Wisconsin's energy future based upon that information.

Pursuant Wis. Stat. § 196.491(2)(g), the Commission must hold a hearing on the SEA no sooner than 30 days and no later than 90 days after the issuance of the draft SEA. In addition, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.491(2)(e), any person may submit written comments to the Commission on the SEA within 90 days after issuance of the draft SEA. The Commission at its open meeting of June 27, 2000, approved issuance of the draft SEA. The draft SEA will be issued to various state departments, regional planning commissions, the lower Wisconsin state riverway board, each entity that was required to report information, the clerk of each city, village, town and county that is affected by the assessment, and interested parties on Friday, June 30, 2000. A copy of the SEA will also be available on the Commission web site (<http://www.psc.state.wi.us>) after that date or may be obtained by contacting the case coordinator listed below. In addition, the Commission will make available an environment assessment on the SEA at least 30 days prior to the public hearing.

Based on comments received on the draft SEA, the Commission will prepare a final SEA. The final SEA will be issued no later than 90 days after the hearing pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.491(2)(gm).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing will be held beginning on Monday, September 18, 2000, at 9:00 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Administrative Law Judge. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

The Commission requests comments on the above issues. Any person who desires to file comments should submit an original and 15 copies as indicated in the box on page 1. Members of the public need only file an original. These comments must be received by noon on Thursday, September 28, 2000. Comments by fax are due one day earlier. Fax filing cover sheets must state "Official Filing" and include the docket number and the number of pages (limit of 20 pages). File by one mode only.

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The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director, at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Lois J. Hubert at (608) 267-2210.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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